GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:151
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2000
POLICY FOR OLD AGE GROUP
SAHIB SINGH VERMA

Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons of 60 plus age in 1951 and 1991;

(b) whether there is a sharp increase in the population of this particular age group during the past ten years;

(c) if so, whether the Government have any National policy for this age group; and

(d) if so, the salient features thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SMT. MANEKA GANDHI)

(a) The number of persons of 60 plus age in the year 1951 was over 20 million and in the year 1991 it was about 57 million.

(b) Since the life expectancy shows a steady improvement, it is understood that the population of persons of 60 plus age has increased in the last ten years. However, no accurate data is available in this regard.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government announced a National Policy on Older Persons in January, 1999.

(d) The Policy provides a broad framework for inter-sectoral collaboration and cooperation both within the Government as well as between Government and non-Governmental agencies. In particular the ppolicy has identified a number of areas of intervention viz., financial security, health care and nutrition, shelter, education, welfare, protection of life and property etc. for the well being of older persons in the country.